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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

TOPIC 1. Motor Vehicle Repair Installations of the 1st MD .2. General Military Information from Czechoslovakia .EVALUATION 25X1

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REFERENCES

PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)REMARKS 25X1

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1. From 15 June 1951 to 12 August 1952, the motor vehicle repair shops of the 2d Div (2. divizni autodilny) were located on the western perimeter of Rejstejn (N 50/Q 27), on the western bank of the Otava River. They covered an area about 800 meters square. The installations were subordinate to the 2d Inf Div in Susice (N 50/Q 28), which had no other motor vehicle repair shops.

In the fall of 1952, Lieutenant Colonel Dostal (fnu), who had been in charge, was superseded by Senior Lieutenant Josef Charypar, his former deputy. About 25 soldier mechanics, who came from various units of the 2d Inf Div, worked at the repair shops.

2. The repair shops had to repair all motor vehicles of the 2d Inf Div which could not be repaired at organizational installations. Repair work on armored vehicles was done at the individual posts, however. The repair shops were well equipped and included several single-story or two-story buildings and depots which had in stock replacement parts for all models of automobiles and armored vehicles and were constantly supplied from Kutna Hora (O 50/M 37) and Prelouc (O 51/M 58).¹
3. The installation in Rejstejn, which housed the repair shops, also quartered the 2d Motor Transport Bn (2. autoprapor) which numbered about 150 men and was commanded by Lieutenant Blaha (fnu). The enlisted men were organized into one company and were equipped partly with rifles and partly with submachine guns. The unit had about 120 motor vehicles which included only four sedans. The other motor vehicles were Praga RN and Praga RND trucks. The unit had its own motor vehicle repair shop, which was independent of the motor vehicle repair shops of the 2d Div. From 20 to 30 motor vehicles of the unit daily were on drives in the billeting area of the 2d Div.¹
4. The 1st Motor Vehicle Park (1. autopark), which was in Kutna Hora from 12 August 1952 to 7 February 1953, was subordinate directly to the 1st MD in Prague. This was known to all enlisted men of the installation. The park included five depots, one for tires, one for motor vehicle components, one for motor vehicle equipment, one for fuel, and one that housed the building administration.

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5. Officers assigned to the installation included Major Macha, (fnu), commander; Staff Captain Jan Cefourek, deputy commander; Staff Captain Libsansky (fnu), director of the depots; and Senior Lieutenant Sobotka (fnu), supply officer.
6. Manpower was provided by a transport company of about 80 men, which was commanded by Jeroslav Hruska, whose rank was unknown. The company also furnished the guards for the depots and trucked materials to and from the installations.
7. All depots and billets were in the former St. Barbara's convent and some other buildings on the eastern perimeter of Kutna Hora and covered an area about 500 x 800 meters. Most of the about 23 buildings were single-storied. Only the main building was three-storied. Mobile motor vehicle repair shops for mobilization purposes were stored in one building. They included 50 Tatra 128 trucks with 50 trailers. [redacted] one complete mobile repair shop included five trucks, four repair shop trailers and one trailer with a power unit and [redacted] 10 complete motor vehicle repair shops were stored in the building. 25X1
8. Fuel was stored in three underground tanks. One had a capacity of 40,000 liters and the other two had a capacity of 80,000 liters each. They were filled to capacity at all times. [redacted] the cars came from the "Stalinovy zavody" plant in Zaluži near Most (N 51/F 13) and the "Benzina" plant in Roudnice (N 51/F 62). [redacted] the fuel in stock also served mobilization purposes. 25X1
9. [redacted] the equipment supply depot served to store shoes and clothing as mobilization supplies. 25X1
10. The depots in Kutna Hora were supplied directly from the factories. Only in exceptional cases were spare parts picked up at the 1st Motor Vehicle Arsenal in Prelouc.
11. Installations subordinate to the 1st Motor Vehicle Park also included the 1st Motor Vehicle District Repair Shop directly west of the railroad station of Kutna Hora - Mesto, commanded by Captain Vondrejč (fnu). This repair shop included seven brick buildings and employed only about 40 civilian workers. Five soldiers who worked there were reassigned to, or discharged from, the armed forces prior to February. About 12 motor vehicles were overhauled monthly at this installation.
12. In January 1953, the depots of the 1st Motor Vehicle Arsenal (i. automobilova zbrojnice) were located in a triangular area near the railroad station of Prelouc south of the railroad line. This area was surrounded by a concrete wall, and consisted of seven or eight single-story brick buildings. About 60 civilian workers did compulsory work there on orders of the military administration. Well equipped machine shops for motor vehicles and tanks were beside the depots. One building stored spare parts needed for current repair work, while other buildings of the depot stored factory-new vehicles for mobilization requirements. One garage contained an estimated 50 complete mobile repair shops of the composition of those in Kutna Hora. Another garage contained about 100 factory-new trucks of various foreign models. [redacted] the 1st Motor Vehicle Arsenal was subordinate directly to the 1st MD. 25X1

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13.

14. In January 1953, the barracks installation of the 21st Mecz Regt (21. mechanisovany pluk) in Caslav (O 50/M 47) was about 200 meters south of the railroad station of Caslav and on the east side of a street which joined the road to Golcuv-Jenikov (O 51/M 56). The barracks installation included three large three-story buildings and about 35 single-story buildings. Units quartered in the installation included the 21st Mecz Regt, commanded by Major Vetricka, (fnu), whose enlisted men wore black and red epaulets, and one PTP unit. [redacted] about 130 German-made armored half-track vehicles of a large and small model. The unit also had 100 trucks including about 20 Tatra 111 trucks, about 20 Tatra 128 trucks and about 60 Praga RN and RND trucks. [redacted] also [redacted] 20 small canvas-covered guns.⁴

15. Another barracks installation in Caslav located on the perimeter of the city west of the road to Golcuv-Jenikov and about 350 meters south of the other installation included about five single-story buildings and quartered elements of 21st Mecz Regt. [redacted] tanks and SP guns at this installation, which quartered less troops than the other barracks. [redacted] the number of the tanks, which were mainly Cromwell tanks and included some Stalinez 3 tanks, exceeded 50 units. [redacted] about 12 SP guns [redacted] were Soviet-made, and [redacted] may have been model SU-122 SP guns.⁴

16. [redacted] the headquarters of the 8th Mecz Div (8. mechanisovana divize) in Kolin (O 51/M 38) was in a three-story building on the north side of the road to Cesky Brod. A clothing depot subordinate to this headquarters was in a barracks installation near the railroad station of Kolin, south of the railroad line to Prague, and extended as far as the western edge of the railroad station. [redacted] this barracks installation was occupied by an infantry unit.

17. [redacted] in March 1952, [redacted] the Zizkov Kaserne in Pisek (N 50/Q 69) quartered an AAA unit. The installation was about 200 meters west of the Otava River and in the vicinity of a railroad stop. Members of the unit [redacted] belonged to an AAA regiment (pluk protiletadloveho delva). Twenty AA guns of about 105-mm were in the barracks yard. Soldiers of the unit said that the guns were the best AA gun model in the Czechoslovakian Army and were Czechoslovakian-made. Four radar sets, mounted on four-wheeled chassis, were at the guns. The funnels were about 3 meters in diameter and had a maximum depth of about 1.7 meters. A metal rod projected from the center about 40 centimeters beyond the perimeter of the funnel, thus raising its overall length to about 2.1 meters. The funnel was made of sheet metal, rather than woven wire. [redacted]

[redacted] guns and radar sets [redacted] a major number belonged to the unit.⁵

18. Another barracks installation, which [redacted] was occupied by an infantry unit, was directly north of, and across from the barracks installation of the AAA unit.

19. [redacted] barracks installation in Horazdovice (N 50/Q 39). This installation was approximately in the center of the town, about 200 meters north of the railroad station of Horazdovice-Mesto, and included four three-story buildings and 20 single-story brick structures. It quartered an AAA unit

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whose members wore red-bordered black epaulets with AAA insignia. Some soldiers wearing blue-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia were also quartered there.

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about 15 guns of the model observed in Pisek. Motor vehicles at the installation totalled about 80 trucks, mainly Tatra 128 trucks. About 30 rocket launchers were mounted on US-made trucks and consisted of two layers of parallel rails. similar to model M-8.

20. 2d Tank Div Benaka Stlavnice (Q 49/C 53)

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the barracks installation in Ctyri Dvory quartered one infantry unit; one engineer unit whose officers included Lieutenant Joseph Plessel; one mounted unit of about 80 men; and one tank unit about 20 tanks. Minor guns towed by Steyer trucks also left the barracks installation.

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23. The barracks installation at the intersection of Nerudova ul. and ul. Dr. E Benese, now presumably Prazska, included a northern and a southern section. A heavy artillery unit was quartered in the northern section.

a very large gun of about 250 mm on caterpillar tracks with a barrel 4 or 5 meters long, which was towed by a Hanomag tractor. A signal unit and a parachute unit wearing red berets were quartered in the southern section. parachutists in the spring of 1952.⁹

24. The barracks installation at the intersection of ul. Dr. E. Benese and Pekarenska ul. consisted of one building with a courtyard. The unit quartered in this installation had horse-drawn vehicles. The enlisted men of the unit wore brown epaulets.

25. the epaulets of the men in the barracks installation at the intersection of ul. Dr. E. Benese and Husova that infantrymen were quartered there. In the spring of 1952 a large number of 120-mm mortars towed by trucks were with this unit.

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26. The barracks installation on Jirsikovo namesti quartered a PS unit.

27. In the spring of 1952, the barracks installation at the intersection of Jeronymova and mars. Malinovskeho was occupied by an engineer unit whose soldiers wore black epaulets with engineer insignia.

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28. 20 guns towed by Tatra trucks were in a barracks installation opposite the Engineer Barracks. the guns were of about 70 mm. The barrels had muzzle brakes.¹⁰

1. Comment. The division repair shops and the motor transport battalion of the 2d Inf Div are confirmed in Rejstejn.

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2. Comment. Previous reports confirmed the 1st Motor Vehicle Park under Major Macha (fnu), in Kutna Hora prior to March 1953.

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3. [] Comment. Other information confirmed the motor vehicle arsenal in Prelouc prior to May 1953. A previous report [] mentioned the activation of repair shop platoons equipped with Tatra 128 trucks. 25X1
4. [] Comment. The two barracks installations on Trida Havlicka Borovskeho were occupied by a mechanized unit for years. The regiment in Caslav belongs to the 8th Mecz Div. A report [] indicated, however, that the 21st Mecz Regt was stationed at Benesov. It is believed that the reported number of 50 tanks and 12 SP guns is too high for the tank battalion of this regiment. The Cromwell tanks possibly are in excess of T/E. 25X1
5. [] Comment. Previous reports [] indicated that a motorized artillery unit is quartered in this barracks installation. [] This regiment possibly is subordinate directly to the army corps headquarters carried in Pisek. It appears improbable [] 105-mm guns. Although previous reports occasionally indicated the existence of an AA gun of this size, possibly the German model-38 100-mm AA gun, the standard gun of independent AAA units is the former German Air Force 88-mm AA gun. [] The radar set possibly was a former German Air Force Wuerzburg-D ballistic director or the Soviet model SCR-584 set which is known from East Germany. 25X1
6. [] Comment. The AAA battalion of the 2d Inf Div is carried in Horasovice. It is believed that this battalion has no heavy guns, but mainly 37-mm guns and a limited number of 88-mm guns. The rocket launcher unit is reported for the first time and presumably is no unit of the 2d Inf Div. 25X1
7. [] Comment. The correctness of this statement is doubted. No 2d Tank Div was previously reported. Also, division numbers are not used twice in the Czechoslovakian Army. 25X1
8. [] Comment. The army corps headquarters in Prague presumably is the superior headquarters of the 5th Mecz Div and the 11th and 12th Inf Divs. 25X1
9. [] Comment. [] probably [] either the Soviet model M-1931 203-mm howitzer or the Soviet model M-1939 280-mm howitzer. However, neither of the guns was hitherto observed in Czechoslovakia. 25X1
10. [] Comment. The statements on the occupation of the installations in Budejovice, whose locations are largely correct, are doubted. Units carried in Budejovice include the headquarters of the 1st Inf Div with the 1st Sign Bn, the 1st AT Bn, the 1st Engr Bn, the 1st AAA Bn, the tank SP gun regiment, the 1st Inf Regt, and the 5th Arty Regt. The heavy artillery battalion, the independent mortar unit and the parachutists are reported for the first time. [] 25X1

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